



Date: January 16, 2007
To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
From: Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: *City Report: Week Ending January 12, 2007*

This *City Report* highlights various activities for the week ending January 12. It is our hope that the *Focus on Results Long Beach* framework improves our ability to communicate information about the services we provide. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

THIS WEEK IN THE NEWS

MAYOR BOB FOSTER PRESENTS 2007 STATE OF THE CITY

Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster delivered the 2007 State of the City speech before 1,500 city officials, civic and business leaders at the Long Beach Convention Center. The Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce hosted the sold-out luncheon. The [text](#) and [streaming video](#) of the Address are available at www.longbeach.gov.

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Police

LBPD announced a 7.1 percent reduction in murders in the City of Long Beach for the calendar year 2006 (39) as compared to 2005 (42). The end of 2006 marks the fourth consecutive year the City of Long Beach has experienced a decrease in the number of murders. Since 2002, murders committed in the City of Long Beach have been reduced by 42.6 percent. In addition, there were no murders in the East Patrol Division, Long Beach east of Cherry Ave. for the first time in more than 40 years.

You can help! The Long Beach Police Officers Association is raising money to help injured officers Abe Yap and Roy Wade, Jr. To donate, make checks payable to LBPOA Widows & Orphans Fund and mail to the LBPOA, 2865 Temple Ave., Long Beach, CA 90755. Call 562.426.1201 for details.

FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND LEISURE

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau

More than 700 high-caliber swimmers competed in the *Toyota Southern California Grand Prix of Swimming* event at Belmont Plaza Pool. The competitors included 17 American Olympians and international Olympians from Tunisia, Hungary, and Great Britain. This event had a daily attendance of more than 2,000 spectators.



Mark Your Calendars
UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

FOCUS AREA: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health and Human Services

The City is seeking volunteers to assist in the 2007 Homeless Count, designed to identify how many people are homeless in Long Beach at a given point-in-time. The count will be held on **January 25**. One-hour orientation sessions will be held at the Multi-Service Center, 1301 W. 12th Street, on **Tuesday, January 16**, at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm; **Wednesday, January 17** at 6:00 pm; and **Thursday, January 18**, at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm. For more information, call 570.4003 or email susan_price@longbeach.gov.

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Police

The public is invited to hear Chief of Police Anthony Batts discuss crime trends and the future direction of the Police Department at this month's Crime Prevention Meeting on **January 17**, 7:00 pm, at the Long Beach Water Treatment Plant, 2950 Redondo Ave. Call 570.7301 for details.

Fire

The Long Beach Fire Department is hiring for the position of Fire Recruit, and applications will be available until **January 31** from the Civil Service Department. For more information, email lbfd_recruiting@longbeach.gov or call 570.2519.

FOCUS AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION

Harbor

Major Street Closure

As part of a Port of Long Beach construction project to improve Ocean Blvd. through Terminal Island, a key interchange at the center of Terminal Island will be shut down from 7:00 pm **Friday, January 19**, until 5:00 am Monday, January 22. Throughout the weekend, motorists driving between downtown Long Beach and San Pedro are advised to take Anaheim Street or Pacific Coast Highway.

The Ocean Blvd. and Terminal Island (47) Freeway interchange, which is used by nearly 50,000 drivers a day, will be closed while construction crews re-connect the newly reconstructed eastbound traffic lanes from a detour road back onto Ocean Blvd. Once the weekend work is completed, eastbound Ocean Blvd. traffic will be routed through a new interchange that has eliminated traffic lights between Navy Way and the Gerald Desmond Bridge. Westbound Ocean Blvd. traffic will continue to use the detour road until June, when the interchange project will be completed. For information, visit www.polb.com.



**Mark Your Calendars
UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

FOCUS AREA: ENVIRONMENT

Public Works, Environmental Services

The public is invited to attend a free Smart-Gardening, Vermiposting & Composting Workshop on **January 20**, 10:30 am, at the Environmental Services Bureau, 2929 East Willow St. Learn how to turn lawn and yard trimmings into a beneficial soil amendment. Call 570.2850 or email recycle@longbeach-recycles.org to enroll.

FOCUS AREA: LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

Community Development, Redevelopment Agency

The public is invited to participate in a 10-question survey on the effectiveness of RDA's communications and public outreach efforts during the past year. Please visit www.longbeach.gov, and click on *Redevelopment Agency Communications Survey* from the News Ticker at the top right of the City's homepage. The deadline is **January 22**.

FOCUS AREA: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health and Human Services

Four Kindergarten Festivals will be held at Long Beach schools to provide parents with information about early childhood education and readiness and to assist parents with the school registration process. The first Kindergarten Festival will be held on **Saturday, January 27** from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, at Renaissance High School for the Arts, 235 E. 8th St.

AWARDS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Fire

The department was recognized as a state certified agency in two areas. Long Beach Swift Water Rescue Team is the first agency in the state to hold the rating certification of *River & Flood Rescue Task Force 12* and the team is now able to travel to emergencies anywhere in the state.

Also, the Search and Rescue Explorer Post was certified as a fully functioning Medium (Level 2) Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) organization. This post is a division of the *Learning for Life* school-based program that operates under the Boy Scouts of America, under the supervision of Long Beach Police and Fire Departments.

The LBFD Training Center was authorized as a state approved facility for the teaching of USAR and Confined Space classes. The facility can now be used to host classes for outside organizations.



MORE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

Criminal Minds, with a cast and a crew of 100, filmed a TV production from January 8 through January 11, on Pacific Ave., Pine Ave., the Rainbow Lagoon and Los Cerritos Park.

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Fire

Long-term projects under way include the acquisition and placement of two rail tank cars and one passenger rail car at the Fire Department Training Center to be used for Mass-Casualty/Weapons of Mass Destruction/Hazardous Materials training scenarios.

Police

Youth Services, along with Police Explorers, conducted a tobacco decoy program in the South Division and five establishments were cited for selling tobacco to minors.

FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND LEISURE

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau

More than 4,000 youth, teens, and adults attended *Snow Day* events held at California Recreation Center, Cesar E. Chavez, El Dorado West, Houghton and Silverado Parks. Participants enjoyed snow hills and play areas, arts and crafts, moon bounces and games.

More than 60 volunteers participated in the 19th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. pre-parade clean-up and flyer distribution. City staff, along with Long Beach Polytechnic ROTC students and community volunteers met at the California Recreation Center and cleaned the parade route from 7th Street to Rhea Street on Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, collecting bags of debris and distributing flyers in the neighborhood.

FOCUS AREA: NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOUSING

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

Nearly 200 graduates of the Neighborhood Leadership Program participated in the *9th Annual Alumni Reunion Dinner* to kick-off the recruitment for the Neighborhood Leadership Program's Class of 2007. More than 350 Long Beach residents have graduated from the nationally awarded program since 1992. The Neighborhood Leadership Program is the only leadership program in the country taught in three languages simultaneously (English, Spanish, and Khmer.) For more information, call 570.1010 or e-mail Francisco.Rodriguez@longbeach.gov.

FOCUS AREA: UTILITIES

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau

From December 31, 2006 through January 7, 2007, staff completed a total of 2,311 service calls. This total included 821 gas and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 401 Turn Offs. During this period, 792 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 150 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 525 emergency phone calls that resulted in 147 emergency orders being sent out.



MORE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

FOCUS AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION

Street Construction Report (See page one of City Report for additional information.)

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Replace Gas Mains & Services

Contact: 570.2060

Throughout Treasure Island

Estimated completion: Mid March

Public Works, Street Improvement

Contact: Public Works 570.5160

Long Beach Blvd. Between Wardlow Road and San Antonio Drive

Estimated completion: Late January

Public Works, Streetscape

Contact: 570.5160

Santa Fe Ave. Between Pacific Coast Highway and Wardlow Road

Estimated completion: February

Water Department, Division Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project

Contact: 570-2329

2nd Street Bridge One lane (#3) 24-hours closure

Estimated completion: Early March

Water Department, Division Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project

Contact: 570-2329

Division Street From Bennett to Ximeno Avenue

Division Street From Bayshore to Ximeno Avenue

Estimated completion: Late March

Water Department, Cast Iron Main Replacement Project

Contact: 570-2323

Artesia Blvd. Between Atlantic Avenue and Cherry Avenue

Estimated completion: May 2007

Water Department, Norwalk/Artesia Emergency Inter-tie Project

Contact: 570-2326

Norwalk Boulevard Between Norwalk Boulevard and Torin Street

Estimated completion: March 2007

GRM: KP: arc

cc:Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager

Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager

Suzanne Mason, Deputy City Manager

City Manager Department Heads

Tom Modica, Government Affairs Manager

Jyl Marden, Assistant to the City Manager